From:

Mike Kolitz

To:

Microsoft ATR

Date:

11/16/01 6:58pm

Subject:

The settlement is good for this country

DOJ, Microsoft, Judge Kollar-Kotelly and others,

I have read the settlement, and have come to my own conclusion that this is a fair and just settlement. Personally, I don't believe that Microsoft ever deserved any of this, but as the Appeals court did find that they illegally maintained a monopoly, then so be it.

Let me explain briefly why I believe this settlement to be adequate.

- \* It punishes Microsoft by restricting the contractual agreements that it can enter with OEMs, effectively ending that method of monopolizing the market.
- \* It was agreed upon by both the DOJ and Microsoft, which would indicate that Microsoft would happily follow these guidelines, and is fully intent on doing so.
- \* Microsoft realizes that it's reputation has been tarnished. Reputation is very important business, and Microsoft realizes that it has a lot of "making up" to do if it wants to win that reputation back.
- \* This settlement, by requiring Microsoft to release technical details about it's Windows desktop and server operating systems, as well as Microsoft Middleware, will restore competition in the marketplace by balancing the technical playing field.

I personally feel that Microsoft has always produced higher-quality software than it's competition as a result of talent, not abuse of power, and the restrictions placed upon Microsoft by this settlement will allow Microsoft to do just that, while punishing them fairly and justly for the times where they did "cross the line."

Please consider this in your findings.

Thank you.

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Mike Kolitz

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